TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

CITY PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers*

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GREAT AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS: The Party Conventions!

The stage is now set for one of the great American institutions—the national nominating conventions of the major political parties. The Democrats convene in Chicago August 13, and the Republicans will go to San Francisco the following week. When all the fan-fare is over, the American voter will then sit back and make up his mind as between rival candidates.

On the eve of the Democratic convention, it would appear that the Virginia delegates may give a first ballot complimentary vote to Senator Lyndon Johnson, of Texas, and then switch over to the Stevenson bandwagon. In this connection it may be interesting to note that it has been fairly rare that the Virginia delegation was on the bandwagon of the candidate who was nominated. The Virginians were for Champ Clark at Baltimore in 1912, when Woodrow Wilson emerged as winner. The Virginians were for McAdoo instead of Al Smith in the 1920's and gave a favorite son support to Harry F. Byrd. The Virginia delegates were not on the Roosevelt bandwagon, and four years ago were for Senator Dick Russell, of Georgia. The platform is not likely to please the Virginia delegates this time, but under the leadership of former Governor John S. Battle, it is held more than likely that they will "go along" and there will be no formal bolt of the national ticket, and that the state will be in the Democratic column this November.

But anything can and often does happen at a national Democratic convention. Basic differences between wings of the party are sure to be aired before the television cameras. A battle over the civil rights plank in the platform could rock the convention.

Among the colorful party leaders absent this time, will be the late Alben Barkley, who so stirred the 1952 convention with his oratory. The most colorful personality at the convention this time may turn out to be former President Harry Truman. We believe that the keynote speaker, Governor Clement, of Tennessee could cop the vice-presidential nomination if he makes an outstanding showing in his address.

We will hear a lot of political oratory in the next few weeks, and it is our opinion that the national conventions and campaigns are of tremendous importance in the outworking of democracy, and that you should not mind if other news gets pushed off the front pages and your favorite television programs are shunned aside in order that we might inform ourselves as citizens.

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HOW MUCH DO YOU READ?

A survey conducted recently by an educational institution indicates that nearly half of the American people do not read books. This, despite the fact that more than half of our adults live within a mile of a public library. Are we to presume that most Americans are satisfied with what they know and do not bestir themselves to find out anything new? Or, are there other reasons worth exploring?

The making of books has become a mass-production enterprise in the United States. Unfortunately, many of the books published are not worth too much of your time. Others are extremely partisan, presenting prejudiced viewpoints or artful propaganda.

We have heard young men and women talk of their difficulty in selecting good reading material and in finding authoratative material on subjects in which they have active or potential interest.

However, it is the person who buys a book who determines which books will reach the best-seller lists. Publishers have no sure way of knowing whether their output will succeed or not. Our advice would include the suggestion that you make more use of the guidance of a reliable librarian in selecting reading material. Why not visit a library and tell the librarian that you would like a good novel, a good history, some dependable volume on science, mystery, or whatever your reading taste may suggest. Chances are that she will be able to give you a worthwhile volume, and that your reading habits will benefit.

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ON FAMILY LIVING

One of the amazing facets of modern life is the failure of many people—men, women and even children—to take a personal interest in the development of a happy, safe and intelligent family. Men who are wizards in the business world often make miserable failures as husbands and fathers. Mothers, who are attractive in looks and intelligent in activities, also often fail dismally in making their homes duplicate these fine attributes. Children who amaze strangers by their good qualities, sometimes are lacking in contributing to the success of life within the family. Family life is the basis of our society. The American home is the Gibraltar of our democracy. Let us give time to thinking of ways to preserve, and improve family life.

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THE COLLEGE SEASON

In a few short weeks, a number of the young men and young women of Appomattox will leave their homes for the purpose of beginning, or continuing their college careers. They are most fortunate individuals by comparison with any who, for a variety of reasons, are unable or uninterested in keeping on with their formal educational training.

It is a great moment in life when a young person leaves the family circle for the first time to venture alone into a new world. That also applies to the youthagoing forth into the armed services.

For some reason, there seems to be a general recognition of the fact that frequently students enter college without adequate preparation, either scholastically or emotionally for the new phase of their life. But others have natural qualities which permit them to take full advantage of the opportunities they will find. It is a moment when every member of the family and community should grasp as a red-letter date on the calendar: The College Season.

* * * * * * * * *

THE STASSEN MANOEUVER

Most observers are of the opinion that the efforts of Harold Stessen to block, at the eleventh-hour, the renomination of Vice President Richard Nixon at the Republican convention, will meet with failure. It appears that the GOP will again nominate the incumbent ticket.

However, the Stassen manoeuver does have merit in that it calls to attention that the selection of a Vice Presidential candidate should ge a free and open choice of the people through their delegates. It has become somewhat of a practice in both parties to allow the winning candidate for President to control selection of a candidate for Vice President. So many times in American history it has happened that a Vice President succeeded to the Presidency, that we believe that more care should be exercised in choosing the nominee for the second big office.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons.

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: John 13:3-15, 34-35; I John 1:2-17; 2 John; 3 John. Devotional Reading: Philippians 2:1-11.

Fellowship

Lesson for August 12, 1956

THE word "fellowship" is batted around a good deal without people's always knowing just all that the word can mean. When some men use the word they may mean no more by it than lunching in the same place with other men of about the same age and salary bracket, once a week, calling one another by their first names and in general acting as jolly as possible. This is some distance off the meaning of the same word "fellowship" as we find it in the New Testament. There it is a very important word. Indeed it sums up all that the Christian church is and ought to be at its best.

Dr. Foreman

With God

Fellowship,—the word, that is—even among Christians can be misunderstood. It is not just the same thing as "sharing." Some forms of sharing, or what goes by that name, are not fellowship at all. The writer was in a meeting once where a good deal was said about sharing with the needy of the city and in other lands. Toward the close of the meeting it came out what was being planned: an old-clothes drive. Everybody present was exhorted to go through his or her attic and closets and find clothing, hats and what-not that wouldn't be used again, and to have these ready on the porch when the boys came by for it. Of course that was not real sharing at all; it was only a scheme to get rid of some fire hazards, to tidy up for full housecleaning. Real sharing always involves giving up something which one would otherwise have been glad to use. But even real sharing may not be fellowship as the New Testament has it,—not as our Lord and the beloved John meant it and practiced it. A traveler can share a seat on a bus when he would much rather sit alone. Fellowship is sharing-with-love, it is a sharing love.

With Man

It is a striking fact that although John is writing to and about the Christian church, he writes two of his three letters without ever using the word. Perhaps it was too cold and formal a word for him, although Paul loved the word "church" and so may we. But John did not want to be misunderstood. So he uses simple words like "God's children," "brothers." The church is the place for fellowship among God's children. In a real church, there is bound to be a closer, dearer tie between Christian and Christian than there can be between persons outside the church, or between Christians and outsiders. What brings Christians together in the first place is not simply themselves as human beings. It is their fellowship with God. It is because they are so close to him that they become close to one another. Now fellowship with other Christians in the church again more than sharing. Even on the sharing-level, how much of it is done in the typical church? What do "members" of the same church share? Pews, hymnbooks, the same sermons, preacher, potato salad at church suppers? All this may be the doorway to Christian fellowship, but still not quite it. Two people can sit at opposite ends of the same pew, and eat out of the same salad bowl, for years on end, without ever finding out what real fellowship means. It is only when they really share the love of God, when together they let his love flow through them in joyous service in his name, that they discover Fellowship.

Learning How

Christian churches would wither without Christian homes. Little children learn lessons in living first at home before they learn in Sunday school or church. Father, mother and children can learn together what Christian fellowship is, and if they do, they will know what the preacher is talking about. If they do not learn at home, the minister, and the Bible, will seem to be talking in a strange language. Actually, there is not a great deal of time to practice fellowship in the church. Maybe one spends five hours a week there; it's more than most do. But there are 168 hours in a week; what about the other 163? If the church is the lecture-room for fellowship, the home is the laboratory. The Bible tells us that it will work. Home is where we can find out how right it is.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Washington Notes

SCHOOL STUDY

The President's committee which is studying the problems of the nation's higher education, will meet on October 5th to consider the reports of subcommittees studying various phases of the subject. The committee is headed by Devereux C. Josephs.

ELECTRONICS CHECKS

Beginning August 1, the 30,000,000 paper checks issued by the Government each year will be replaced by punch-card checks. The change will not affect the familiar greenish-blue punch card checks now used for veterans' payments, Social Security, tax refunds, savings bonds interest and most other Government expenditures. By the switch, the Treasury figures to save more than $2,000,000 a year.

PRICE - FIXING

Government trust investigators concentrated on cases of asserted-price-fixing during the first six months of this year, according to the Justice Department. Since Jan. 1, the department's Anti-Trust Division has filed twenty-nine anti-trust cases, thirteen of them for civil violations and sixteen on criminal charges. The department also terminated 36 anti-trust cases in the first half of 1956, one third of which were based on criminal charges and the rest of civil actions.

NATION'S PRODUCT

In the last quarter of 1955, the gross national products — the total value of goods and services produced in this country, showed the product at an annual rate of $401,000,000,000. The annual rate for the first quarter of this year was put at $403,400,000,000 - consecutive records. The previous high was $396,800,000,000 in the third quarter of 1955. For the full year, the 1955 gross national product was estimated at $391,000,000,000 as compared with $360,500,000,000 in 1954.

PRISONERS INCREASE

The population of Federal prisons continued to rise last year, with 185,000 persons in state and Federal penal institutions at the end of 1955—the largest prison population since the bureau started keeping count in 1929. It reflected a 1.7 per cent increase over the 1954 year-end total. Thirty-three states and the District of Columbia reported increases while Montana showed the greatest drop—21.5 per cent.

THE NAUTILUS

The Navy has announced that its first atomic-powered submarine, Nautilus, has cruised almost 50,000 miles without refueling. It was on Jan. 17, 1955, that the 3,000-ton Nautilus first put to sea under nuclear power.

FOREIGN TRADE

In a midyear appraisal, the National Trade Council announced exports for 1956 would be up $16,000,000,000, while imports are expected to run in excess of $500,000,000. Both estimates are higher than actual trade last year — exports by $2,000,000 and imports by $1,000,000.

U. S. HOMES

According to a recent survey, it has been revealed that almost the houses in the United States are over 30 years old. According to the 1950 census, 65.5 per cent of the 45,817,000 dwelling units had been built prior to 1929, and 40 per cent prior to 1919.

PERSONAL INCOME

Americans earned income at a record rate of $323,000,000,000 in May, which was $1.3 billion more than the April rate. For the first five months of this year personal income was at the annual rate of $319.4 billions, or 7 per cent more than in the like period of last year.

Richard D. Robinson

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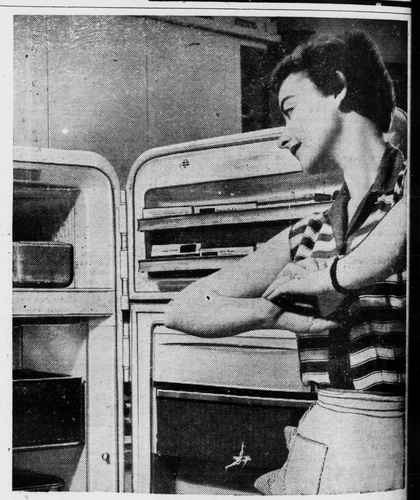

YOURS FOR KEEPS

WITH MODERN HOUSEPOWER

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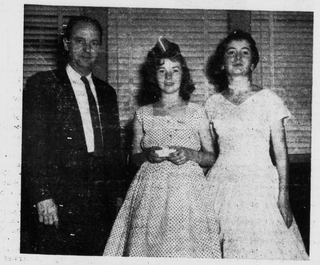
Winners in Spout Spring P.-T. A. Contests

...-up in the Spout Spring Baby Contest sponsored by the P.-... Little Patsy McFadden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey ...dden. She is shown with George Abbitt, who crowned the winners.

Little Judy Gayle Morris was crowned "LITTLE MISS SPOUT SPRING in the Baby Contest, sponsored by the Spout Spring P.-T. A. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Morris.



Miss June Martin, center, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Martin, was crowned MISS SPOUT SPRING by George Abbitt, on July 28, at a Spout Spring P.-T. A. Lawn Party. Runner-up was Miss Harriet Carson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Carson, of Spout Spring.

Photo by Shearer Robertson, Photographer.

...nual Boy's Forestry Camp ...s Held at Holliday Lake

...welfth annual Boys' Forestry Camp was held during the week ...ly 16 through 21. State Forester George W. Dean stated that ...ys attended camp this year, ...carry back to their com...a wealth of knowledge learn...the forestry courses taught ...camp.

...camp is held each year at ...y Lake, located on the Buck... Appomattox State Forest. ...ndred and five scholarships ...warded to Virginia boys be...the ages of 14-18 years judged the most deserving from the standpoint of activity and interest shown in sound forest conservation methods. At the end of the camp week, the boys were carefully tested on the subjects taught during the camp period. The instructors and counsellors selected as the best campers three outstanding boys who displayed the most leadership, initiative, interest and who also made good grades on their test papers.

Trained professional foresters from the pulp and paper industry and the Virginia Division of Forestry and a wildlife technician (Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries) handled the instruction at the camp. Courses taught included forest fire control, cruising, marking and estimating timber, area surveying, tree planting, tree identification, game management, and timber harvesting and processing. Four Appomattox County boys attended the camp this year. They were: Nelson Mann, Route 1, Appomattox; Dennis W. Torrence, Route 2, Appomattox; Cecil Wooldridge, Appomattox; and Jerry Hudson, Route 4, Appomattox, all four of Appomattox High School.

What's so easy about "child's play"? All the children we have studied work at it. -Milwaukee Journal.

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GOLDEN GLEAMS

Remember that thou art mortal. —Phocylides.

Man .. cometh forth like a flower and is cut down, he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not. —Old Testament.

Pale death, with impartial step, knocks at the hut of the poor and palaces of kings. —Horace.

Why, what is pomp, rule, reign, but earth and dust?
And live how we can, yet die we must. —Shakespeare.

That flesh is but the glass which holds the dust, that measures all our time. —Herbert.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all the beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,
Await alike th' inevitable hour:
The paths of glory lead but to the grave. —Gray.

Homemakers Items

The walls of any room are an important part of your decorative scheme.

Miss Ruth Jamison, home economist at VPI, says the color, pattern and design of the wall should depend on the room, its use and other furnishings.

The walls may be papered, covered with plywood in a wood veneer, panelled in knotty pine, or painted. Some homemakers like a combination of wallpaper and paint, or natural finishes and paint.

Most people prefer paint. Now available are paints that dry quickly, spread easily, and are more attractive in color than ever before.

Select the fabrics or wallpaper you will use and key the paint for walls and woodwork to it.

Miss Jamison has some specific suggestions for the home owner who is planning to redecorate.

Make any structural changes you want done before redecorating.

Decorate the walls to enhance your furnishings. Match the wall color to the source of inspiration for developing your color schemes. Carry out the same general theme throughout the house.

Light or medium-colored walls are easier to live with than extremely dark walls, unless you use light furniture and rugs and have lots of light.

Ceilings should be off white or a tint of side wall color to reflect light.

Matching woodwork and walls make the room appear large. Contrasting woodwork and walls make the room appear smaller.

A combination of paper and paint (if the paper is carefully selected) will be more attractive. Try paper in the dining room and hall, paint in the living room and bedrooms.

Use plain fabrics and rugs with patterned walls, or plain or patterned fabrics with plain walls, to assure restful rooms.

WORM FARM WILL PROVIDE FISH BAIT WHEN WANTED

Ever plan a fishing trip only to have it squelched because there was no bait?

That's typical fisherman's luck, all right, but the "no bait" part of this story has a simple remedy.

An ordinary wash tub filled with the proper soil and buried in the ground should yield plenty of fish-worms, say wildlife management specialists at VPI. The tub or other bed should rise three or four inches above ground level.

Fifty to 100 worms are enough to start a tub-sized worm bed. English red-worms or "red" wrigglers are preferred by most pole-and-cork experts.

A fine clay loam containing lots of humus or well decomposed organic matter is ideal. Locate the bed in the shade and moisten with water every week or two, or more often during the summer if needed.

To provide needed drainage, cut a two-inch hole in the bottom of the container and cover it with a patch of fine copper screen wire.

Don't disturb the worms too often. Two such tubs will allow the use of worms from one while the other is left undisturbed.

As for food, worms feed on the soil from which they digest organic matter, both animal and vegetable. The leaves of celery, cabbage, lettuce, turnips, and other vegetables are readily taken by the worms when small amounts are worked into the topsoil. A mixture of one part kitchen fat and two or three parts of corn meal also makes an excellent ration.

If the worms are to be sold, pint-size ice cream cartons containing 50 to 100 wigglers make good marketing packages.

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